

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A golf club is manufactured by machining away a portion of the rear surface of a club face blank to form an elliptical central thickened region that tapers through a transition region to a thinner peripheral region. The elliptical central thickened region, transition region and the portion of the peripheral region surrounding the raised portion are formed in a single elliptical pass with a special cutting tool. The cutting tool, or "form cutter" has a conical lateral cutting surface, which forms the sloped transition region and the peripheral region surrounding it in a single operation.

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